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like to have a vivid idea of what it means to travel for many months in a swirl of waters at the bottom of rugged chasms hundreds to thousands of feet in depth, where the roar of rapids sometimes drowns the voices of comrades at your side, will get a better conception of it from this book than from anything else that has been written.

The book is edifying as well as entertaining, for the reader gets from it a good general idea of the more prominent phases of information that were the fruit of the enterprise. But Mr. Dellenbaugh has not recapitulated the geological and other scientific details so fully presented in the reports of Powell and others. His part of the literary results is the history of the memorable journey, and no story of the kind was ever better worth the telling. All the material needed for a full and accurate account of this Colorado voyage was in his hands and he has woven it into a very careful and readable narrative. The book was needed to complete the history of the pioneer efforts to solve the mystery of the Colorado Canyons.

**Handbook of Alaska, its Resources, Products and Attractions.**

**By Major-General A. W. Greely, U.S.A.** xiii and 280 pp., 25 Illustrations from Photographs, 8 Maps, Tables and Index. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1909. Price, \$2.00.

No aspect of Alaska that has interest for our citizens is neglected in this Handbook. This immense and valuable Territory is growing in importance every year, and still Alaska is comparatively unknown to the larger part of our people and erroneous information about it is widespread. It was time such a handbook was written, and it is fortunate that this work, which thoroughly covers the field, is from the pen of an American who was probably better fitted to write it than any other man. Major-General Greely has been familiar with the Territory for nine years. He has visited it six times, travelled very widely in various parts of it, directed the building of over 4,000 miles of its military telegraph lines, submarine cables and wireless, and, twice, has been in supreme military command of the vast domain. Not only does he know his subject, but he has seen Alaska with the eyes of an explorer and geographer of international fame who is also keenly alive to all its potentialities. With this equipment, he has written a book filled with definite and accurate information to meet the needs of the student, of those interested in Alaskan development or commercial enterprise, and of those who plan a visit to Alaska for business, pleasure or research or to seek a permanent home there.

The author first gives a general description of the Territory, its geographical features, climate, its waterways, roads and railways. A brief statement of the work of the army, which has played an important part in the exploration, government and development of Alaska, is followed by a significant chapter on the possibilities of agriculture, the forest resources and the reservations established for the preservation of mammals and birds and other purposes. Then comes a clear and orderly treatment, in 65 pages, of the metals and coal in Alaska, conveying a good idea of the distribution of the mineral wealth and what is being done to develop it. From the chapters given to the fur seal and the fisheries of Alaska many will derive their first idea of the great importance which Alaskan fishing has assumed. "Apart from gold-mining, the salmon fishery is the overshadowing industry in Alaska." The chapters on "Tourist Trips," "Glacier Regions" and "Mountains" are full of the informing matter essential for the best guidance of

travellers. The concluding third of the book contains a rich store of facts concerning the native and white inhabitants, education and missions, game, scientific fields of research still open for the student, trade and transportation, and some details of parts of Alaska outside the usual routes of travel. The book concludes with climatic and statistical tables, lists of the mountains, volcanoes and glaciers and a good index. It is both good reading and handy and dependable for reference; and with occasional revisions it will doubtless be long before it is supplanted in the field it is the first to fill.

**Der Alpinismus und der Deutsch-Österreichische Alpenverein.**

**Von Dr. A. Dreyer.** viii and 200 pp., Illustrations, and Indexes of Authors and Places. Marquardt & Co., Berlin, 1909.

The book contains the combined histories of Alpine sport and the German-Austrian Alpine Club. In the general part, the author has compiled an interesting collection of data illustrating the slow process of the wakening of man to the beauties of Alpine landscape, from the state of superstitious awe inspired by the real or supposed horrors and dangers of the mountains. The deterrent influence of the latter seems to have been so powerful that even Mt. Blanc was not known, at least has not been found recorded on any map, before the seventeenth century. The Swiss savant Scheuchzer did pioneer work in taking his students, from 1702 to 1711, on regular excursions to the mountains, the results of which were embodied in his "*Itinera Alpina*" (publ. 1723). But it was not until Rousseau's writings attracted multitudes to the places hallowed by the "*New Heloise*" that the Alps were artistically or touristically discovered.

After that, in the middle of the 18th century, travels to Switzerland began to become popular in France, Germany, and England: Klopstock, Wieland, Goethe, Byron immortalized what they saw in their verses, and Schiller's "*Wilhelm Tell*" was the first expression of the awakening general enthusiasm for Switzerland. Then began the era of the famous first ascensions of the higher peaks, inaugurated by Professor de Saussure, the conqueror of Mt. Blanc, and continued in a splendid series of exploits by the English Alpine Club. What this Club did for the Swiss Alps, the German and Austrian Clubs, later combined into one, did for the Bavarian and Austrian Alps. The main difference between the English and the continental organization is that the former includes only Alpinists of renown, while in the latter everybody interested in Alpine sport or study may become a member, which secures this club a large membership and large means, which are spent for improvement of the touristic conditions in its territory and for the publication of two magazines of scientific and popular character. The statutes and by-laws of this club are reprinted in the appendix, together with other matter valuable for the information of intending members and of alpinists in general.

M. K. G.

**Conditions of Life in the Sea. A Short Account of Quantitative Marine Biological Research.** By James Johnstone.

xiii and 332 pp., Chart, Illustrations, Bibliography, 7 Appendixes, and 2 Indexes. The Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, and G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1908. Price, 9s.

Many of the ordinary facts of oceanography, and some of the features of the North Atlantic Ocean, are given as preliminary to the quantitative researches which form the author's main object in writing. In one of the preparatory chap-